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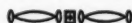
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# ORAL HYGIENE

EDITED BY WM. W. BELCHER, D.D.S.



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# ORAL HYGIENE

## A JOURNAL FOR DENTISTS

VOLUME VI.

MARCH 1916

NUMBER III.

### BRIGHTEN THE CORNER WHERE YOU ARE



DO you notice the COIN CARD and ADDRESSED ENVELOPE in this number of the magazine? They are intended for your contribution to the Forsyth Loving Cup. All you have to do is to write your name on the card, inclose a coin, seal the envelope, affix a two cent stamp and trust the rest to Uncle Sam. I am not concerned as to what you send; a silver dollar, twenty-five cents, ten cents, five cents, but send SOMETHING.

If you have already done this, you may keep it and use next Sunday or Ash Wednesday or St. Patrick's day. Having contributed to this fund you can do your duty to the church, but I hope your conscience will trouble you until you forward the card properly loaded.

It is our desire to secure enough money to employ the best talent in the country in designing a cup of such artistic merit that it will be a credit to the dental profession and of which they can be justly proud. So long as the Forsyth Infirmary for Children endures, it will be one of its chief jewels and placed in the Donor's Room, it will be viewed by every visitor, a beautiful token of our appreciation.

Such a cup as the committee have in mind will cost about a thousand dollars. Give us this sum and I assure you the money will be well spent.

This is not a small matter although the sum requested of you is a bagatelle. It is purposely so, that all may have a part rather than a chosen few. Don't wait for the other fellow; brighten up your own corner. USE THE COIN CARD.

*"Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do.  
Do not wait to shed your light afar.  
To the many duties ever near you now be true.  
Brighten the corner where you are."*

## GIRARD COLLEGE AND ITS PROVISION FOR HEALTH MEASURES

A short sketch of the Institution and its care of poor orphan boys. The medical and dental treatment a model for the world.

**V**IEWED from any angle, the life of Stephen Girard was most unusual. His was a strong character and it would seem that adventure waited him at every turn of the road. He was born near Bordeaux, France, May 20, 1750, and lived to be 82 years old. His mother died when he was of tender age and after his father's second marriage, Girard at the age of 17, took to the sea. He was fond of referring to this period as under the tutelage of "his nurse, the sea." It was a strenuous life and undoubtedly the foundation of much of his stern, uncompromising attitude was due to this early training. He was a far seeing, shrewd business man of sterling honesty, with a courage of soul rarely equaled.

At the age of 23 he was master of a vessel and traded in all parts of the world. Chance led him to New York City where he became associated with a fellow trader and it was on one of these voyages to the West Indies and New Orleans in 1776 that he arrived at the Delaware capes just as the British fleet was effecting a blockade. He sailed up the Delaware to Philadelphia, and as it was impossible for him to go to

sea at that time, he disposed of his cargo and established a small store near the water front.

Handicapped by virtue of being a foreigner and the necessity of learning a new tongue, poor, of a different faith and of unprepossessing appearance due to the loss of an eye at the age of eight years, he became the richest man in America and its first millionaire. With one eye he saw more than his competitors with two, while they slept he thought, while they pleased he worked. He had a genius for business and a shrewdness that was uncanny and because of his success, he became heartily disliked. He lived plainly, economically, but comfortably. While he did not attach himself to any denomination, he was a generous contributor to all. He was a man of few words, crabbed and unapproachable, considered miserly in his habits; as a master, exacting and hard.

Unmindful of the malevolent criticism of his fellow-men, indifferent to reckless perversion of his motives, he went serenely on his way. He early learned to suffer and be silent. His life philosophy as given by himself was most beautiful. "When death

comes for me, he will find me busy, unless I am asleep. If I thought I was going to die tomorrow, I should plant a tree nevertheless today."

Michael Angelo, walking in the streets of Florence, saw a block of marble in some rubbish at his feet. He stooped to pick it up and a friend asked him what he wanted with the worthless rock. Angelo replied, "there is an angel in that stone and I must get it out." He took it to his studio and by patient labor with mallet and chisel, he let the angel out. It seems strange that no one during Stephen Girard's life discovered the angel in the stone. Surely, he gave enough evidence of it, even though it was covered with a stern, unapproachable exterior.

He took the oath of allegiance to the state of Pennsylvania in 1778 and all his life was an intense patriot; his faith and love for his adopted country was a fetish. In the year 1813 the government sorely needed money to carry on the war with Great Britain and so little faith did the people have in their country's future that a popular loan of \$5,000,000 went begging. Girard stepped in and subscribed the whole amount. Previous to this he had shown the "angel in the stone," when in 1793 he offered the supreme sacrifice of his life, to stay the ravages of the plague that had fastened itself on the city. When most of its citizens had fled, he remained and for two

months took personal charge of the pest house. Here he worked eight hours a day amid the most wretched and loathsome surroundings, caring for the living and burying the dead. He restored order and ministered to the comfort of his fellow men and after it was all over, modestly returned to his usual duties. This at a time when he was at the height of his business success and full manhood.

"My deeds must be my life; when I am dead my actions must speak for me," he said. Tested by this standard, he was pre-eminently a Christian in spirit if not in creed. No warrior or king has a nobler monument than the institution he founded. In all the diadem of Philadelphia's charities, it is the richest jewel. Many thoughtful persons have expressed the opinion that this benefaction is one of the greatest the world has ever known.

Girard's whole life was a tragedy. He lost his mother at an early age, partially blind, practically orphaned by the marriage of his father, his own marriage to a most estimable woman, ended in her becoming the inmate of an insane asylum, and his only daughter died in infancy. He was christened a Catholic, married an Episcopalian, attended the Friend's church and was buried with full Masonic honors in a Catholic cemetery. His only pleasure was conducting his business and this he did without taking a day's

vacation. He was at his banking house every day, groping his way alone, nearly blind, up to his 81st year. On one of these trips to his place of business, he was run down by a wagon and severely injured. When medical attention was given him, he said, "go on doctor, I am an old sailor, I can bear a great deal." All his life he had lived amid prejudice and envy, childless and alone. Yes, he had learned to "bear a great deal."

In 1851 his body was removed to a specially prepared masoleum in the main building of the institution he founded. So lacking was he in any desire to parade his virtues that he never sat for a portrait and it was only by the aid of a death mask and a suit of old clothes that Givlot, the Paris sculptor, fashioned his statue. The painting by Otis was from memory and the same aid.

For many years he had cherished in the depths of his impenetrable soul, one of the greatest and most unselfish benefactions in the world. The following extract from his will, clearly expressed his purpose:

"and whereas I have been for a long time impressed with the importance of educating the poor and of placing them by the early cultivation of their minds and the development of their moral principles above many temptations to which through poverty and ignorance they are exposed; and I am particularly desirous to provide for such a number of poor male white orphan children as can be trained in one institution a better

education, as well as a more comfortable maintenance than they usually receive from the application of public funds."

The will of Girard, after remembering his immediate relatives, personal servants and several minor bequests to the city of Philadelphia, left the bulk of his fortune, between five and six million dollars, to the founding of Girard College. He provided for the conditions of admittance and many details as to the management. Boys are admitted between the age of six and ten years and may continue in the college until from fourteen to eighteen years of age.

The institution is a home as well as a school, and comes nearer being an endowed boarding school than an orphanage. Every boy attending is indentured to the city of Philadelphia and the Board of City Trusts manages the institution. The college rears and cares for its students in every particular and monthly reports are sent to the nearest known relatives of the boy.

The grounds are of some forty acres, and besides the main building, an imposing Greek structure, comprise twenty other buildings, among them being chapel, school buildings, dormitories, dining hall, infirmary, mechanical school and a magnificent new high school building now nearing completion. Heat, light and power are furnished from a central plant. Three hundred boys was the extent of Girard's ambition, but the

present attendance is 1,500 and this is the capacity of the institution.

Over 8,500 boys have been educated thus far, and most of them are good citizens. Many of the graduates entered the civil war and a soldier's monument has been erected to those who died on the battle field. Military drill is a feature and the boys have a college band.

Through wise management, the increase in value of city property, and the fortunate finding of valuable coal deposits on land owned by the college, the total value of the endowment is about fifty million dollars, of which the grounds and buildings represent five millions. Only a part of the total are revenue producing at the present and the rate of interest obtained is a fraction less than four per cent. This amounts to approximately a million and a quarter dollars annually. While this is a large sum, it is none too large and the trustees could use a much larger fund to good advantage.

The provision in Girard's will excluding the clergy from the college has been wrongly interpreted as being hostile to religious teaching. The founder said, in express terms, that the provision for exclusion was introduced that the minds of the boys being reared by the institution might be kept free from the confusion of denominational controversies; this was followed by a statement that it was not to be interpreted as

being a "reflection on any sect or person whatever." The difference between Girard and other like institutions, is that the religious instruction is given by laymen and not ecclesiastics. No meal is eaten without the invoking of divine blessing. The chapel services are frequent and always two services on Sunday. No conception of the college is more false than it is irreligious or non-religious.

The health of the pupils has always been one of the chief concerns of the management, in accordance with the will of the founder, which declares: "Due regard shall be paid to their health and to this end their persons and clothes should be kept clean." In his annual report to the board of directors, for the year 1910, the president of the college says: "As medicine is generally tending more and more to the prevention of diseases rather than their cure, our work is developing largely in the same direction. Our medical staff has sought during the past year, and I believe will, to an increasing degree in the future, seek to make the medical department of Girard College a department of health and not of caring for the sick. In this direction it can be of the largest service to the boys who are committed to the care of the college."

Examinations of applicants for admission are held twice a year and approximately 100 boys are admitted. By a pro-

vision of the will of Mr. Girard the college is accessible to "poor, white, male orphans" between the ages of six and ten years. Under these conditions it can scarcely be expected that all of the applicants will have the inheritance of robust health, as a matter of fact, quite a large percentage of the deaths of parents are attributable to tubercular disease. The visiting physician in his report for the year 1914 calls attention to the fact that all the four boys who have died in the institution since January, 1911, had tubercular parentage. In determining the acceptability of an applicant, the broad view is taken that unless he has some physical defect or deformity likely to interfere with his progress in school he shall be admitted.

The death rate of pupils attending the college has been reduced from that of 7.5 per thousand in the period of 1848-1857 to 2.0 for the ten-year period passed. The health protective measures employed to accomplish this result has been in the line of diet, water, milk inspection, ventilation, better plumbing, and increased efficiency of the medical department, including the recent establishment of a fully equipped dental dispensary.

The will of the founder requires that the pupils "shall be fed with plain but wholesome food." The supervision of the diet is in charge of a trained dietitian and the diet

lists are supervised by the visiting physician and his staff who make suggestions as to changes that they may deem wise and beneficial. In the year 1893 the board of directors installed a filtering plant of 500,000 gallons capacity. Bacteriological examinations are made at frequent intervals. The milk supply is carefully guarded and similarly examined each month to make sure it is up to the standard and free from all menaces to health. Great attention is paid to personal cleanliness and the pupils are required to take frequent baths and also to visit the laboratories before going to meals and before retiring at night. Shower baths are installed in the various buildings and laboratories are of the best type of white porcelain. Each boy has his own basin with a supply of towels, wash cloths, soap, tooth powder and toothbrush, also an individual brush and comb marked with his name. All plumbing is inspected at least once a year and no insanitary fixtures are permitted to remain. Playgrounds and gymnastic apparatus are provided and it is so arranged that each boy spends as much time outdoors as they do in the school room. Under the supervision of an instructor the boys are taught indoor games and sports as well as those peculiar to outdoors. During the training season there are as many as 28 baseball teams in addition to those which play with outside organizations. The col-

lege has a staff of 430 employees who look after the comfort, welfare, education and health of the 1,500 boys.

The infirmary is a large, three-story L-shaped building used exclusively for housing the various special divisions of the medical department. In the infirmary there are 50 beds for ordinary use and 130 beds for any unusual outbreak or epidemic. The regular staff of nurses consists of four day nurses, including a head nurse and two night nurses. The medical staff consists of a visiting physician, resident physician, laryngologist, ophthalmologist, consulting surgeon, chief dental surgeon and two assistants.

Upon entering the college each boy is submitted to a physical examination of the ear, nose, throat and mouth. The result of this examination is kept on file. A large proportion of the applicants received some form of treatment either operative or local and these conditions are remedied so far as possible immediately on entrance. The Girard College boy, therefore, starts with a clean bill of health, so that with proper sanitary regulations as to the school rooms, sleeping rooms and careful regulations as to work and play, it is a comparatively simple matter to maintain health.

The treatment of these poor wards of Stephen Girard is far in advance of even the wealthy child of the rich in our public schools where they are allowed to enter

without attention in any way, physically unfit to receive the instruction so carefully prepared for them by a highly trained teaching force, and spread their physical infirmities to all alike. No child should be allowed to scatter the results of physical neglect in this manner. The uncared for child of the poor with a diseased body impartially passes along his burden of microbes to all of his associates, including the carefully guarded child of the rich, with ideal home surroundings. All must share in the morbid pathological conditions of the neglected child and this is particularly true of dental conditions. The time is rapidly approaching when a child will not be allowed to enter a public school until they are physically fit, and when this time arrives we will be doing what Girard College is and has been doing for a number of years.

The necessity of dental attention to the pupils of Girard had been recognized at an early date. The late Dr. Wilbur F. Litch, Philadelphia, Pa., was the first dentist employed, and he spent one day a week at the institution from the time of his appointment, January, 1879, to July, 1911.

After his death, the department was reorganized and new equipment installed with the greatest care. The new dental dispensary was formally opened, September 11th, 1911, with a dentist in chief, two assistant dentists,

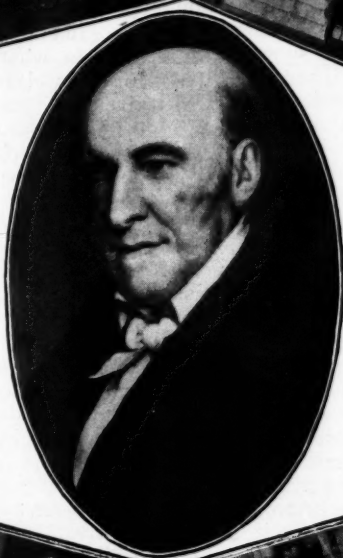
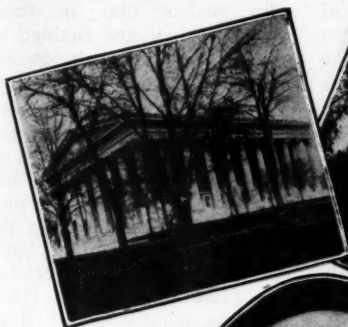




## STEPHEN GIRARD FOUNDER

- 1750 BORN NEAR BORDEAUX, FRANCE, MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>
- 1776 ARRIVED AT PHILADELPHIA
- 1777 MARRIED TO MARY LUMM, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>
- 1778 OATH OF ALLEGIANCE, OCTOBER 27<sup>TH</sup>
- 1791 BIRTH AND DEATH ONLY CHILD, MARY GIRARD
- 1793 SUPERINTENDED PEST HOUSE DURING  
YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC
- 1795 BUILT WATER ST. RESIDENCE AND WAREHOUSE
- 1802 ELECTED TO SELECT COUNCILS, OCT 12<sup>TH</sup>
- 1807 PURCHASED BLOCK GROUND 11<sup>TH</sup> 12<sup>TH</sup>  
MARKET AND CHESTNUT STS, JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>
- 1812 PURCHASED PROPERTY U.S. BANK, JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>
- 1812 FOUNDED BANK OF STEPHEN GIRARD
- 1813 LARGE SUBSCRIBER TO U.S. BONDS
- 1815 DEATH OF MRS. GIRARD, SEPT. 13<sup>TH</sup>
- 1816 APPOINTED DIRECTOR, SECOND U.S. BANK
- 1830 SIGNED WILL, FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>
- 1831 PURCHASED SITE OF GIRARD COLLEGE,  
(PEEL HALL FARM), JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>
- 1831 DIED DEC. 26<sup>TH</sup> AGED 81 YEARS, 7 MOS.
- 1831 INTERRED AT HOLY TRINITY R.C. CHURCH
- 1851 BODY TAKEN TO GIRARD COLLEGE, SEPT. 30<sup>TH</sup>

PRESENTED BY THE ALUMNI, MAY 29, 1912



Stephen Girard (center), Original Building, Soldiers' Monument, Sarcophagus, Statue of Girard erected by public subscription.

and a clerical and mechanical assistant, all four of whom give their full time to the care of the boys in the college.

The dental dispensary is housed in a wing of the infirmary building and is on the ground floor. It is well suited for its purpose, with plenty of light and sunshine. An outside view of that portion of the building housing the dental section is shown in the illustrations. There are three operating rooms, a reception room and a general work room, which is not shown. The following abbreviated description is taken from a recent government bulletin issued by the Bureau of Education at Washington:

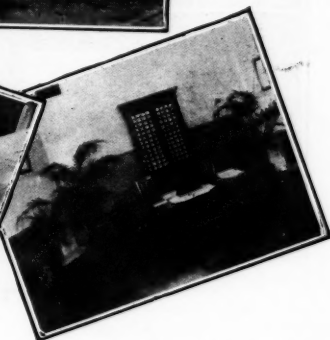
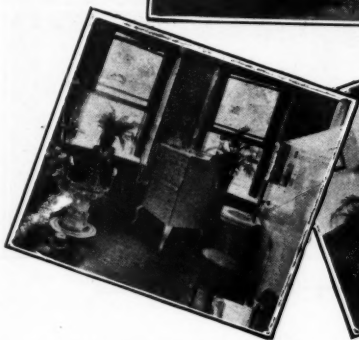
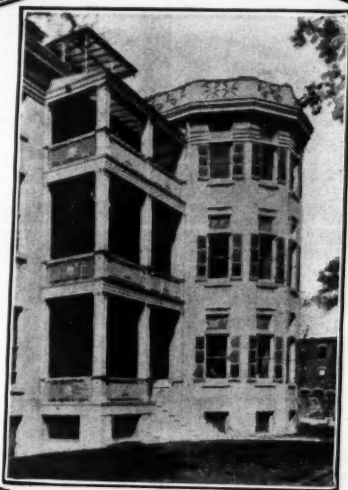
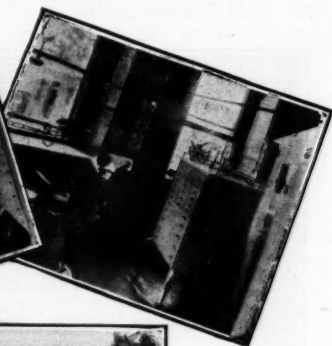
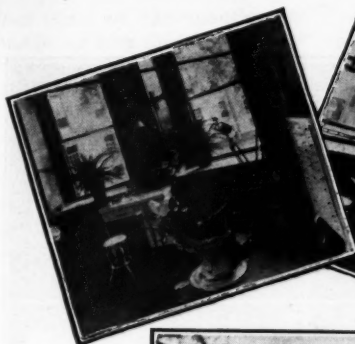
"With the enormous task of caring for and establishing a healthy condition in the mouths of approximately 1,500 boys, the necessity for having every facility at hand for rapid, thorough, and careful work is quite obvious. The white marble partitions, white enameled steel cabinets with porcelain tops, white enameled chairs, engines, and switchboards were selected to create an impression of cleanliness and refinement which we desire the boys of Girard College to have of their dental department. On leaving college the boys will then seek to have their teeth cared for in an office where a carefully selected equipment is available and where a high standard is maintained. These are usually found in the offices of the most progressive men,

who realize that in their adoption they are enabled to advance their work to its highest degree of perfection.

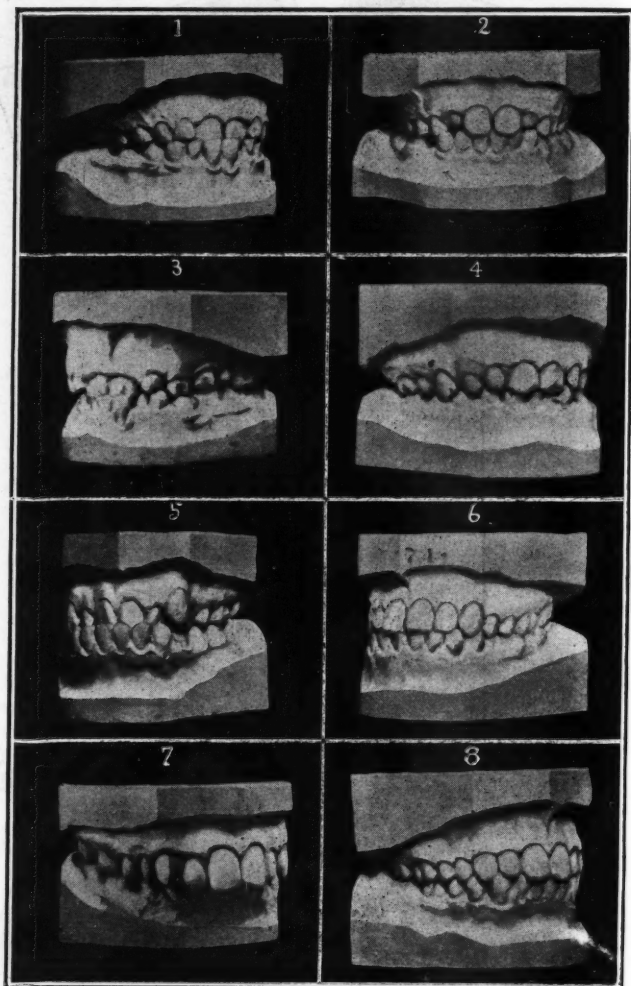
"After a thorough examination has been made and the condition of the oral cavity recorded, some simple and painless operation is performed, such as cleaning the teeth. In this way the boy's confidence and co-operation are gained, and he is interested in what is being done for his welfare. He is then given an appointment to return at a subsequent time, and his work is carried on and completed as rapidly as possible. His appointment is made for *one hour* and promptness is insisted upon. In this way he loses no more time from his school than is necessary.

"A record card has been carefully prepared, so that every treatment and operation performed during each boy's attendance in the college can be kept on file and referred to at any time.

"It is not deemed sufficient to treat the boys in Girard College for present diseased conditions only, but to study the oral cavity as a whole. By prophylactic methods a healthy and aseptic condition is established as nearly as possible and the lost tissue is restored by means of fillings, etc. A study of each individual case is made as to its requirements. Malocclusion and irregularities of the teeth are studied by means of carefully taken plaster of paris impressions, from which ex-



Wing of the Infirmary building (center) and views of the Dental Clinic and Reception room.



Models of Corrected Cases—Before and After Treatment

act casts of the mouths are made. From these can be determined the lack of development and harmony of the alveolar process, the muscles, and surrounding tissues, which influence the growth of the jaws, going to make up a harmonious facial development.

"Too much emphasis can not be placed upon the necessity of early dental attention, and particularly the care of the temporary teeth. When they are lost prematurely, the permanent teeth erupt unassisted into various conditions of irregularity and malocclusion, which greatly interfere with the growth of the bones of the head. Interference with the organs of respiration results in a lack of normal development of the tissues of the body, following the improper oxygenation of the blood.

In the examination and treatment of approximately 42,000 teeth we found it necessary to extract 42 permanent teeth, or a loss of one-tenth of 1 per cent. This is a very low percentage of loss; thus of 122 boys who entered the college in September, 1913, only eight had received previous dental attention and six boys under nine years of age had some of their first permanent molars in such a diseased condition that the surrounding tissues had become infected, due to the death of the dental pulp, the formative element of the tooth, before the roots of the teeth were fully developed."

The report of the dentist in charge of this work as given in the 1915 report of the institution for the year 1914 is as follows:

Gold Fillings .....	1
Amalgam Fillings .....	1,316
Phosphate of Zinc Fillings.....	1,609
Gutta Percha Fillings .....	506
Temporary Stoppings .....	659
Teeth Devitalized .....	110
Putrescent Teeth and Abscesses Treated.....	90
Root Canals Filled .....	470
Cleanings .....	1,133
Permanent Teeth Extracted .....	10
Treatments .....	3,288
Crowns .....	3
Bridges .....	1
Total Number of Operations .....	9,106

As showing the increased efficiency of the work the following tabulated report is interesting:

		Decrease, 1914.	Decrease.
Permanent teeth devitalized..170.....	114.....	32.9%.....	99.....13.1%
Permanent teeth putrescent...151.....	41.....	72.8%.....	26.....36.5%
Permanent teeth abscessed....22.....	20.....	9.9%.....	6.....70.0%

In 1912, 99.4% of the number of teeth devitalized were permanent.  
In 1913, 99.1% of the number of teeth devitalized were permanent.  
In 1914, 94.5% of the number of teeth devitalized were permanent.

In 1912, 92.6% of the number of putrescent teeth treated were permanent.  
In 1913, 67.2% of the number of putrescent teeth treated were permanent.  
In 1914, 40.6% of the number of putrescent teeth treated were permanent.

In 1912, 91.2% of the number of abscessed teeth treated were permanent.  
In 1913, 52.6% of the number of abscessed teeth treated were permanent.  
In 1914, 20.6% of the number of abscessed teeth treated were permanent.

Since the opening of this reorganized dental dispensary one hundred and fifty-five have been taken under treatment for malocclusion and irregularities of their teeth. Thirty-four were dropped, twenty-six left the college while under active treatment and eight did not warrant the continuance of treatment. Sixty-eight cases have been completed and dismissed, nineteen cases are still held under observation or passive treatment for retention and thirty-four cases are under active treatment. A number of illustrations are shown of mouths before and after treatment.

At no other dental infirmary that has come under the writers observation has the correction of irregularities of the teeth received the attention as at Girard College. Perhaps, it would not be practical, but carrying out the founder's wishes of guarding the health of his wards it is questionable if any other work would meet with his full approval as this service.

The President of Girard in his annual report for 1914, has the following to say in commending the work of the

dental dispensary. "This department has been in existence only a little over three years but already it has worked a betterment in the appearance of the boys of the College, and an improvement in their health. School attendance has become more regular and the physical stamina of the boys improved. School efficiency has been markedly increased and the problems of discipline reduced. That these conditions have been brought about is due, I believe, to improved health and better physical conditions, contributed to largely by the medical and dental services."

The care of the physical welfare of the students of Girard is a model for our public schools and it would be an economy to the taxpayers if such service was furnished every pupil. It would not cost money; it would save it in the increased efficiency of the scholars, to say nothing of the value of a whole body for the future citizen. Some day when he has become sufficiently educated, Mr. Taxpayer is going to wake up and realize that it is cheaper to prevent disease than trying to remedy it.



Statistics of the Bureau of Education show that there are 90,000 or more inmates of institutions of the character of Girard in the United States,

and all are sadly in need of the medical and dental service as furnished these fortunate wards of Stephen Girard.

## FACING OUR PATIENTS

LAWRENCE G. SINGLETON, D.D.S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

DOWN the avenue they are selling false faces, but how many people need to buy them? There are more real live false faces on the streets than artificial ones in the store. How does anybody know? Look at their teeth!

Doesn't the contour of the face depend upon the boney frame work which gives it support, and doesn't this underlying structure consist of the teeth and those parts necessary for their maintenance?

The teeth are a part of the scheme for the individual, but for the full realization of the inheritance they must assume their typical and characteristic arch, form and relations.

We observe the typical characteristics in the dumb brute, but there are so many departures from the normal in the genus homo that we sometimes fail to recognize that man possesses a typical dentition, and any old shape which happens to turn up becomes established as his everlasting trademark.

Types of faces only acquire their full allotted development in conjunction with the typical normal relations of the teeth. Nothing short of this attainment satisfies the re-

quirements of the inherited design. And surely each child is entitled to wear his or her own face instead of a mere caricature of what it ought to be. Do you think you would be overjoyed if you knew that your child was wearing a face which did not belong to it? People are not born with false faces, they get them after they grow up. And growing up with a motley array of human teeth in your mouth means a cartoon on your shoulders instead of your own natural face.

Don't bewail your inheritance. Check up on environment. Surely the human ancestral strain contains some potentialities along the line of tooth architecture. The brute creation doesn't have a monopoly on Nature's designs.

In the last analysis dentists are specialists in teeth, and our patients crave the knowledge that we possess in order to prevent them from wearing cartoons instead of their own real faces. We are "facing our patients" every day and getting away with it, but it behooves us to see that they get their right faces. The wisdom of our verdict upon the developing denture decides the future in faces.

## THE BOOGEY MAN

H. E. TOMPKINS, D.D.S., New York City

The writer's experience with the unethical practitioner has evidently been cast in pleasant places. As this magazine is for 100 per cent. of the dental world, the unethical as well as the society man, we need no apology for presenting the side of the man who believes in the publicity of the daily prints. The author, in a foot note in his manuscript, states that he started as an ethical practitioner and fell from grace, but is now pursuing the straight and narrow way, and is willing to bet that he couldn't get into a dental society with a crowbar.

FROM the time I can remember first in dentistry I have had an horrible demon swung before my eyes. He has been said to be the incarnation of all that is vile—morally, mentally and physically. He lurks on bright corners and at prominent spots. Awaits one with open arms. Draws one to him with impossible magnetism. And then—ah, yes—and then—

One is supposed to leave this devilish curse with an empty pocketbook and worthless work. One has been milked dry. One's sense of right and wrong has been distorted even by having come in contact with the villain.

There has been nothing too bad to say of him (and nothing too good to say to him). He is the *ne plus ultra* of Satanic personification.

He is the "bad man" who comes out at night and pinches your toes and pulls the covers off the bed. He hides in the dark corners and when you and I go into a dark room, he jumps out and says, "Boo"—just like that. "Oh, he's awful terrible." Why, he would eat you alive, if he caught you. Sh-sh, he's the Boogey man.

We, in dentistry, must have a boogey man just as do the kiddies and just as all professions do. We don't call him the boogey man, though. He is more generally known as "the advertising man." And of all the twaddle I have ever heard, I have heard the twaddest about him. All of which is called forth by this excerpt from a letter to me from a man of years and acknowledged sense. He says: "Do you know that the illegal practitioners (he means the advertising man) have a State-wide organization, with dues at \$50 per year? They hold their annual meeting at Albany at the same time our State Society meets and call themselves the Empire State Society. How is that for a front?"

Here follows my answer: "I do know that the advertising dentists are forming a State organization under the name of The New York State Society of Advertising Dentists. The old Empire Society went out of existence something over a year ago. I do not think they have shown any front or nerve in establishing such a society. On the contrary, I think they have done quite right. Would

you sit quiet and mumble if you were turned out of your society? How would you keep up to the minute in the matter of new ideas? Would you read the story in a magazine from three months to a year after the idea was brought out? Yes, you would. But you would like to hear the story when it first came out, not after it was almost old enough to vote."

"We ethical dentists are too damned ethical. We are perfectly and unfortunately self-satisfied. We know we are members of the society, and as such we *are* reputable; and we know, too, that any man who does not belong to the society is not reputable(?). The advertising man does not belong, therefore he is not fit for our association. We are exactly in the position of the Pharisee who prayed for himself—'God, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican' (Luke XVIII:11). Substitute the words 'advertising man' for the word 'publican' and our position is well defined."

We dislike the advertising man because he makes money where we cannot (that's candid). He cuts our prices all to pieces. On the average, he does quite as good work as we. Surprising as it may be, he is quite as honest and honorable as we (I refer to the average man, and no one specifically). He wears hats, clothes, shoes and canes just as we. He has a couple of

dollars when we are broke. His clothes cover just as much of a man as ours. But. He disfigures the front of his office by signs. He tells people he can do some things he *may* be able to do or may not be able to do. He uses ordinary business methods of getting business while we use professional means. He pays for his advertising while we try to get ours for nothing. And, when its all said and done, the trouble is not so much with the advertising man as with the "ethical" practitioner and the *society* to which *he* belongs.

"If you were a dog, would you lick the hand of the man who kicked you or would you be tempted to bite him? In this case the advertising man is the dog. He has been kicked, plentifully, and, he acts accordingly. Now, pat him on the back. Pet him a little. Don't open the door and shout, "Get out, you beast." Don't treat him like a pariah. He has no loathsome disease of mind or body. He is generally astute, acute and a good business man. He usually possesses a good working brain, logical and sensible. He has the making of a mighty fine society man in his makeup. The mistake has been that he has been kicked. Invite him into the fold and make him a member of your society. Cut out that section of the by-laws on ethics which measures a man by the size of his signs and ask that he be honest and honorable with his fellow

members and mankind in general."

"Bring him in with us *now*, or, later we may be begging him at his door. Bring him in and co-operate with him. He pays, you say, \$50 per year for membership. Induce him to come with us and pay our smaller dues and to help us to help all dentists by the successful introduction of good laws for our dentistry."

"The 'reputable' dentist, *i. e.*, the society man, form about one-fourth of the total number of dentists in this country. We society men, then, are outnumbered con-

siderably by the 'disreputable' or non-society man. It cannot be appreciated readily that if these men wish to start something in the line of a society or laws that our voices will amount to about as much as the squeak of a rat. Therefore, let us take these men in with us, then let us reform them and convert them to a better standard of ethics (if you must have that word). But, let us do all that by nice means, let us do it as the churchman tries to convert the pagan, by mild and lenient measures; not by condemnation and reproach."

## CARING FOR THE TEETH OF THE INSANE

H. B. BUTLER, D.D.S., Ogdensburg, N. Y.

You cannot afford to miss this article. It is well written and shows the crying need of dental service in our State Institutions. Our modern civilization is here shown at its worst. Millions for fine buildings and grounds and we allow these helpless wards of the state to suffer in silence. This is not intentional but through a failure to recognize the importance of dental attention. It is for us as dentists and professional men, to inform our patients, our assemblymen and the public in general, through the press and by every means at our command, of this disgraceful condition of affairs, in order that it shall be remedied. The need of the lady "Oral Hygienist" is shown and we should be big enough and broad enough to meet this demand.

**I**F I should tell you of a colony of 52,800 adults whose dental needs were looked after by but one man, what would be your first natural impression of it?

This colony, however, is one of the best organized and most economically run of which one can conceive. Its real estate is valued at \$2,980,000 and consists of 1,015 acres, of which 566 are under cultivation and last produced crops to the value of \$59,612.05.

Its buildings are not only beautiful from the architect's point of view, but a walk through any one of them would give you the impression that you had arrived at Spotless Town.

Its lawns, studded with flowering shrubs and dotted with artificial lakes, would be the delight of the landscape gardener. Its walks along the river banks and through the woods are wonderfully beautiful. We find an up to date opera house and com-

plete fire department; traction plows, milking machines and a crusher for pulverizing limestone for the soil will be approved by every modern farmer, and the whole place gives the impression of modern completeness.

And here, on the banks of the famous St. Lawrence River, dwell 2200 insane patients, wards of the state of New York. An hour spent in any portion of this colony would make you proud of the fact that you lived in the Empire State.

Its legal affairs are looked after by the best talent obtainable. Its corps of physicians is carefully selected, and in the ratio of one physician to one hundred and eighty-six patients. But greatly to the surprise of any thinking man we find its dental service to be supplied at the ratio of one operator to 52,800 patients. The state of New York allows the services of one operator one day per month. Were he on duty twenty-four days per month the ratio would be 1 to 2200, but as he is on duty but one-twenty-fourth of that time it is as stated 1 to 52,800. Just think of it! Less than one operator to the entire insane under State care.

But St. Lawrence has not been alone in this situation, all the insane hospitals being under the management of the same State authorities and, as I understand, with the same arrangement as to dental service.

These State officials have always been most keen upon matters of sanitation and we find here a most excellent system of ventilation which even provides for the drying of floor mops in the air shafts that convey away the dead air. And as for the air itself, well, it's St. Lawrence River air, and nothing more could be required.

But, strange to relate, comparatively few of the patients receive the full benefits of this air, there being many, many cases of mouths so vile as to defy description, and the ordinary exhalations from which are noticeable throughout the entire ward, attendants being unable to sit near these individuals, and thus this air so pure in itself and so admirably distributed, is lost to both these patients and their fellows.

The drinking water provided comes from the regular city supply passed over the beds of a new and modern filtration plant and is in every way most excellent. But just before it reaches the patients it is in most cases passed over fields of salivary calculus the like of which are never met in private practice, and bacteria laden, and mixed with portions of food in various stages of decomposition, the patient swallows something—but not pure water.

The arrangements for the preparation of food are elaborate, and models of both sanitary and culinary science. All food is carefully inspected and must come up to certain



standards. Subways with tracks and cars convey the food in covered receptacles from the central kitchen to the various buildings; and thus pure food carefully prepared reaches the patient. But alas for the pure food! Stirred up with carious remnants of teeth and mixed with pus in very appreciable quantities—well, what has become of our pure food anyway?

These conditions are not new, and they have been recognized, here at least, for many years. Various attempts have been made to interest the State authorities in these conditions. The writer brought the matter to their attention personally ten years ago, but it was passed by because of seemingly more important needs. A request from a resident dentist was refused because of lack of funds, and every attempt to relieve the conditions has met with failure and discouragement.

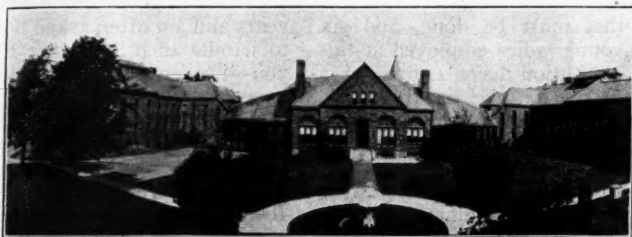
Previous to July, 1915, the visiting dentist carried to the hospital upon visiting days, such instruments as were necessary for the simplest of dental services, and amid surroundings that did not even

include running water for the washing of the hands, he did the best he could. A toothache had to wait until the next visit, and abscesses had to run their course.

The superintendent, who was thoroughly interested ten years ago, had not, however, entirely lost interest in the matter, and we have at last worked out our salvation to an extent that is very gratifying.

The last six months has shown a marvelous change, and we are justly proud of a dispensary service that is successfully meeting all requirements and an outfit so complete that any operator could drop in and take up the work without any handicap whatever.

Our first consideration of the needs of the service led us along the line of trying the services of dental students, but this was abandoned for the reasons that his services would be but for a short time, and until he became used to work among the insane his efforts would be fruitless. The same would have been true of the oral hygienist had her services been available, unless she had also



had experience among the insane.

Finally, however, we worked out the problem in the following manner. Selecting a young lady who had several years experience in the institution and a personal knowledge of many of the patients, we developed our own oral hygienist and greatly to our satisfaction we discovered a mechanical skill far beyond our fondest hopes.

Teaching first a thorough knowledge of the anatomy of the part and eventually ending with a good working knowledge of bacteriology doing a little practical work each day, the service is now most satisfactory and from September 1st to January 1st our report is as follows.

Examinations and chart-	1215
ings .....	
Roots filled.....	21
Fillings .....	119
Treatments .....	161
Extractions .....	246
Scaling and cleanings.....	478

With the writer's time limited, we are indeed proud of this record. Previous to July the treatment of a tooth was an impossibility and many an anterior tooth was needlessly lost. Now we are saving them.

But there are many features that cannot be shown in any report. The gratitude shown by various classes of patients is most touching and many a "God bless you" from one of these unfortunates is more acceptable than the promise of a check.

During the next two years the question of the dental nurse or oral hygienist, (the writer prefers the latter term) will demand the attention of every man in our profession in this State. The writer's ideas upon this subject are will fixed, for with every insane institution in the State sadly overcrowded, and with the heavy appropriations that must come for the proper housing of this ever increasing class, there seems to be no other solution of the problem of relieving the great need for dental service among this most unfortunate class of human beings on earth.

Can you imagine a new graduate or an old practitioner who would consider for a moment a position that required that he stand for hours masked like the modern European soldier. We have to do this almost daily in this service. Yet here is a work



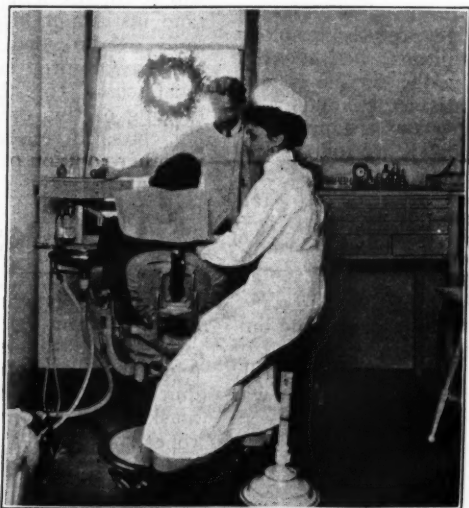
that must be done, and six young ladies employed at this institution have expressed a desire to take up the work. The field of the oral hygienist must of necessity be limited, but in establishing these necessary limits let us not fail to consider the interests of 35,000 unfortunates who can not say one single word for themselves.

To any one not in favor of granting this degree to women an earnest invitation is extended to visit us; come and see what we have done, come and talk with a patient or two, come and convert yourselves. Certainly without this valued assistance and thorough interest manifested in this work the conditions existing prior to July, 1915 would still exist.

I have been among this class of patients for fifteen

years and am often asked how to handle them. I can't tell you—it seems to come from experience, to grow upon you. Generally speaking, I should say that we handle them like children and get on very well. The facts are that most of them, even from our worst wards, come willingly to the dispensary, sit quietly through their allotted time and return pleased and exceedingly grateful. And to our great surprise we find upon our worst ward that the patients take kindly to the toothbrush and are faithful in its use.

To get a patient to respect himself has long been considered an important factor in the treatment of the insane, and when accomplished was looked upon as a most important symptom of improved mental condition. A visit to the dispensary and a look in



the glass is usually followed by a more tidy arrangement of the hair and clothing.

One patient recently presented the writer with a check for \$200,000 for the extraction of a single tooth. I have not cashed it, but am keeping it as an example of the high fee it is possible to obtain for satisfactory service.

We are unable to get the State to furnish anything in the line of a modern toothbrush, having to content ourselves with the oldest of patterns, shaped like a shoe brush and bristled similarly also.

Many patients work hard and faithfully six days per week, but we have no means of providing such patients with an artificial denture if needed, except thro' a special appropriation. *Is it asking too much of the State of New York, when we ask that the creature that follows the cultivator receive as much consideration as does the one that draws it? If a State horse can not chew his ration, he meets the veterinary surgeon at once. But not so with the other patient.*

We have carefully preserved one specimen from the mouth of a female patient about thirty-five years of age and tubercular. Salivary calculus had formed, giving a solid mass an inch and a quarter in diameter, all attached to a second molar which my assistant removed with her fingers. In so doing a piece

of the calculus cleaved from the tooth and exposed a beautiful gold filling. There is quite a life's story written right there and it does not take an X-ray or the fluoroscope to show it. And it is but a matter of chance only that the patient happens to be some other fellow's sister. She may be yours, we don't know.

One patient, a boy of 19, who has worked faithfully for three years showed a mouth containing four broken roots, three abscesses and ten cavities. He left us last week to try and make his way in the world. His mouth is in splendid condition and gratitude does not express his feelings. But there is something besides money in this world, and this certainly was worth while.

And now if there be any single paragraph herein that can in any way be interpreted as other than a sincere plea for the best interests of the insane patient, the writer certainly regrets its appearance. But doubtless other branches of State charities would show similar conditions and the same needs. Probably the average dentist has little that he can give to charity, but in the matter of the oral hygienist we can at least be charitable, and if she solves a tough problem elsewhere as well as she has here, let us by no means fail to give to the unfortunate the benefits of her dental services even though limited.

## DETAILS OF THE ROCHESTER DENTAL DISPENSARY ANNOUNCED

### DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTION EXPLAINS ITS AIMS AND METHODS

The following address was delivered before the local Rotary Club by Dr. Burkhardt and appeared in the daily press. It is here presented as a concise statement of the purposes of the new institution.

**I**T will be my endeavor briefly and in simple language to tell you of the organization, arrangement and objects, which are hoped to be accomplished in the Rochester Dental Dispensary.

I assume you are all quite familiar with the financial arrangement for conducting this institution, so it will not be necessary for me to speak in detail of the splendid liberality of Mr. George Eastman, the board of trustees and the municipality of Rochester.

The organization is composed of a board of trustees of thirteen, the usual officers of a corporation and an executive committee of five. The director, who is appointed by and responsible to the board of trustees, is the executive head of the institution, under whom, according to the present scheme of organization, there will be an assistant director, consulting and visiting staff, operators or assistants who will be graduate dentists, nurses for the surgical department and the necessary dental nurses or dental hygienists to do prophylactic work in the pub-

lic schools, and the usual business organization to look after the business side of the institution.

The interior arrangement of the building—while necessarily following in some particulars the Forsyth Dental Infirmary of Boston and dental college and hospital infirmaries generally, will have many new and unique features, and so far as Mr. Eastman and the management can make it, will employ and embody the very latest thought and appliances to make this the most efficient and complete institution of its kind in the world.

You may be interested in a brief description of the arrangement of the building. The heating plant will be housed in a small building at the rear. The basement will contain the necessary locker, rest rooms and showers for the permanent staff of operators on the east side, and, women on the west side, lunch room and kitchen, supply and janitor's rooms. On the main floor will be found the children's waiting, examination and cloak rooms, trus-

tees', directors' and executive clerks' rooms and officers', research laboratory, museum and library and a large lecture room.

One side of the mezzanine floor will be used for X-ray and photographic work, and the other for a hospital for babies or very young children requiring oral, surgical attention.

On the top floor in the center will be located the general dental operating room, on the west side the extracting and orthodontia departments and on the east side the surgical preparation, operating and recovery rooms, and everything necessary to make this an efficient and complete children's hospital for the work contemplated.

The family of the late Frank Ritter will, as a memorial to him, contribute an equipment for the dental infirmary which will be placed especially for this institution. With the assistance of trained expert engineers from the Ritter Dental Company, units will be devised which will represent the latest type of dental appliances.

Operators will have complete outfits of instruments, and the necessary accessories, including an individual sterilizer at each chair. They will be held strictly responsible for its proper care. Their work will be carefully supervised, so that patients and the public may be assured that the operations performed in the infirmary will be well and properly done. The training

which recent graduates from college may obtain will be of much value to themselves and the public when they enter private practice.

The work in the dental infirmary will consist of filling of teeth and roots with plastic fillings, the removal of tartar and cleaning of the teeth; the making of splints for fractured jaws and appliances for regulating teeth, and such other work as would be performed in any properly equipped dental office. Operations will be done by a carefully trained staff of paid assistants, who will have the benefit of the advice and assistance of a visiting staff of prominent local dental and other specialists, who will donate their services for this purpose.

An X-ray department with proper photographic equipment in charge of a competent operator will be one of the useful and attractive features of the institution. It will be placed at the disposal of those in general practice and the cost of making photographs greatly reduced. This will mean much not only to operators but patients who will be the chief beneficiaries, by having a place where the work may be done at a moderate cost.

The research laboratory will be an important part of the institution. Opportunity will be given to members of the dental profession and others to carry on their studies in conjunction with the regular staff of the dis-

pensary. The research department will be conducted along rational and practical lines. It will not be used to exploit doubtful theories and fads, but an endeavor made to learn the truth and apply the discoveries in a practical manner.

The museum and library will be placed at the disposal of the dental profession, and provide a place for study and reference work.

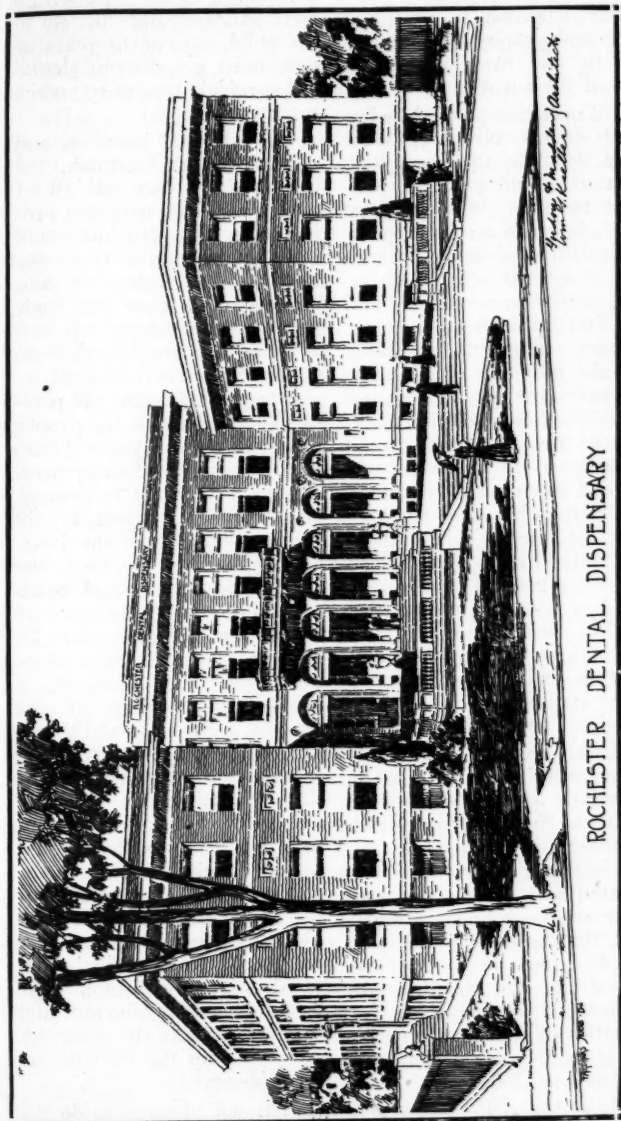
The lecture room will fill a long-felt want for the dental profession in Rochester. Lectures will be delivered here to children, parents and the public, on matters relating to the care of the teeth, oral hygiene and prophylaxis, by expert dental practitioners and teachers, who are competent to entertain and instruct. The local dental societies will make it their meeting place, and by that close community of interests which it is hoped to establish, much benefit will be derived by the public and the profession.

It is planned to educate and train a sufficient number of young women who will be known as dental nurses or hygienists. Their work will be to go to the various schools, with an equipment provided by this institution, clean the teeth of the school children, and instruct them in the care of their teeth. This will open a new avenue of employment for young women, which to those so inclined should prove to be a useful and remunerative work. It gives me much

pleasure to tell you and the citizens of Rochester, that this dispensary has been complimented by the education authorities in Albany, by their willingness to grant to the dispensary a charter for a dental nurses' school.

The dental society of the State of New York will endeavor to have enacted legislation which will permit of the education and graduation of dental nurses or hygienists. The preliminary requirements will be those for the medical nurse. The professional training must be one year in a recognized and properly equipped infirmary before they can be admitted to the State licensing examination. If it is decided by Mr. Eastman and the board of trustees to establish a dental nurses' school in connection with this institution, it will be the first of its kind in the world, and as Rochester was the first city in the world to establish a free dental clinic for the worthy poor, it is only proper, and in line with the progressive spirit of this city, that the first dental school for nurses should be established here.

It is not possible at this time to predict the far-reaching effect, importance and value which will result from the employment of dental nurses, but I have no hesitation in giving it as my personal opinion that their proper employment will be so satisfactory and beneficial that there will be a universal demand for their services.



ROCHESTER DENTAL DISPENSARY

*Designed by H. H. R. 1884*

Dental nurses will give particular attention to oral hygiene and prophylaxis, and it will be the most important part of their work.

The need for properly educated dental nurses is very great. While their employment in dental offices is desired by many, the services which they can render in public institutions, and particularly in schools, will be of far more importance to the public. It is difficult to place an estimate upon their value, and the influence which they will exert for good in the instruction they will give children in the care of the teeth, the removal of tartar and the proper mechanical cleaning of the mouth. The employment of medical inspectors and trained nurses in public schools is generally approved and has been of great value in the conservation of the health of children, and the addition of the dental nurse to the staff will prove equally beneficial and satisfactory.

There appears to be a vague and indefinite idea in the minds of the public with regard to the real objects and purposes of the founder of the dispensary, and those associated with him. It is Mr. Eastman's hope, first and foremost, that an opportunity will be presented here for the proper care and treatment of all defects, diseases and deformities of the mouth, teeth, throat and nose of all the children in Rochester. No child in this city—from the time of the eruption of its

first tooth, or the baby with a cleft palate or hare lip, up to the child, say, of 14 years of age, need go without dental or surgical treatment when required.

It is also the intention and hope of Mr. Eastman, the board of trustees and all of those connected with this project that an opportunity will here be afforded to teach the children the value of and how best to care for their teeth; the teaching of oral hygiene and prophylaxis; orthodontia or correcting of irregularities of teeth; the placing of children under proper observation during the different stages of development, using every means to prevent abnormalities, especially in the development of the jaws, arrangement of the teeth, the nose, throat, face and head, operations for the removal of tonsils and adenoids, hare lip and cleft palate. It is planned that there shall be a careful examination of the mouths, teeth, nose and throat of all children attending school, and the results of those examinations carefully recorded. Duplicate copies indicating the work that should be done will be given to, or transmitted to the parents of the child, who are able to employ regular dentists. A follow-up scheme will be devised and an endeavor made to impress upon reluctant and careless parents the necessity of correcting the various defects observed.

It is not planned to do the ordinary relief or rescue work



usually done in medical and dental colleges and infirmaries, but to bring the baby erupting its first tooth in direct relation to the institution and that relation continued for twelve or fourteen years with the hope that by this method much of trouble and suffering arising from early neglect may, by prompt mechanical and other means be greatly relieved or removed. The inculcation in the minds of the children of the necessity of the proper use of the toothbrush and other means for keeping the mouth healthy, the value of the preservation of their teeth as one of the necessary things in the mastication of the food to prepare it for digestion, will have much to do in the formation of habits that will remain with them, and be of inestimable benefit through life.

Those in charge of the work of the dispensary will have a wonderful opportunity to note the value of the means employed in the treatment and correction of troubles about the mouth, and should be able to demonstrate the importance and value of preventive dentistry. It is the opinion of experienced practitioners in the medical and dental profession, that in preventive medicine and dentistry there is held out the hope of the greatest relief and good to humanity.

The work done in this dispensary will be of far reaching importance, the effect of which will not only be ob-

served locally but throughout the State and nation, by reason of the interchange of ideas between institutions of a like character. The 700,000 school children in this State will be benefited. The educational authorities in the contemplated preparation of a scheme of study for use throughout the common school course, will include in its teachings, such knowledge as a child should have with reference to the proper care of the body, and what is essential to promote good health. In devising this scheme the physicians and dentists of Rochester will no doubt be consulted and have much to do with the preparation of the course of study.

The necessity for the care of the teeth must be apparent to you from the result of the examination of the teeth of eight thousand children in a city where there is medical and dental supervision. It was found that 96 per cent of the children had defective teeth; 58 per cent of their permanent teeth were decayed; 62 per cent. between eight and nine years of age required attention and 30 per cent. had lost the sixth-year molar—the most important masticating tooth in the mouth. Seventy-five per cent. of the children examined did not use a tooth brush. The figures just quoted tell their own sad story of pain and suffering.

The surgical work to be done in the dispensary will consist of the removal of ade-

noids and tonsils—hare lip and cleft palate operations. The laity is quite familiar with the former, but has an imperfect knowledge of the great number of cases of the latter, and the wonderful field that will be opened for the doing of good by providing proper means and a place for doing this work. In cases of hare lip and cleft palate very satisfactory results are obtained when children can be operated upon within two months after birth. No work that can be done will be more humane or add more to the comfort and happiness of the child and parents than the early operation for cleft palate and hare lip.

The economic side of the question is recognized in this city by the appropriation proposed to be made to the dispensary by the city authorities for the care of the teeth of the children. Those connected with schools and boards of education can tell you of the large extra expense for the education of defectives and repeaters, much of which expense could be saved by early and proper attention to the health of the children.

The talks and lectures to be given to children and parents will be educational in character and designed to teach those things which will be useful and helpful in raising the standard of efficiency. It is not necessary to tell you that a sick child, or one with a diseased nose or throat, or toothache, is far from being

in a position to do its work, or take its place by the side of one in good health. Mr. Eastman's main object in making his magnificent contribution was to give every child in Rochester a fair chance. No child in this city need suffer, because there is no money in the family with which to pay for the professional services required. The opportunity will be given to a man with a family, earning a small wage, to have his children receive care and attention, in the relief of their sufferings, and the doing of necessary operations, thereby placing them on an equality with other children, and giving them a fair start in life's race.

The dispensary is designed for the benefit of the worthy poor children of Rochester, and all without regard to race, creed or color, may avail themselves of its benefits. It may interest you to know the plan which will be followed in determining who are eligible to receive treatment. While a definite scheme has not been adopted, the board of trustees will probably decide upon a certain per capita of earnings for a family to permit them to become beneficiaries of the institution. For example, if the earnings of the father and other members of the family amounted to more than \$3 or \$4 per week for each member of the family, they could not receive the benefits of the institution, but must employ a regular practitioner. The

income of the families and worthiness of those seeking relief will be determined by social workers and inspectors, or those connected with institutions, churches, social welfare workers, etc.

Children will be charged a small fee—perhaps five cents for each operation, but this will not prevent those who are found absolutely destitute from having work done and some plan will be devised for taking care of these.

The object of a small charge is to teach a child that the service is worth having, to preserve his self-respect and most of all to avoid the semblance of anything that would partake of the nature of pauperism. Under this plan every child will be on the same level with every other child, and should feel no reluctance about accepting the benefits of the dispensary.

Time will not permit me to refer to many of the details of the proposed work, or to treat some of the problems connected with the institution work, as fully as their importance warrants. It is not my purpose to make extravagant predictions of the results which it is hoped to attain, but simply to tell you that the dispensary will be conducted along practical and rational lines, with the firm expectation that practical results will be obtained which will be for the lasting benefit of those who will be its beneficiaries.

The building which will be erected to house the Roches-

ter Dental Dispensary is not intended to be a monument or memorial, to anyone, but for practical utility in preaching the gospel of good health and good teeth. It will, so far as possible be a school house for teaching the children the value and care of their teeth. Its work will be educational along many lines, with the hope that parents and children will be benefited by the advice and instruction which will be at their disposal.

The woeful ignorance of the public with regard to the simplest rules for preserving the health is appalling, and makes the people an easy prey to quacks and charlatans. Now and again new remedies are placed upon the market and heralded from one end of the land to the other as a sure cure for all diseases of the body. New ailments or old ones under new names are exploited to put dollars into the pockets of mercenary physicians and dentists, without any adequate or proper return to the patient.

You have heard much in recent years about pyorrhea, and from the prominence which has been given to this disease, one would be led to believe that its cure would remove all trouble about the mouth, and the body generally. I do not minimize the importance of treating pyorrhea, and endeavoring to effect a cure, but I do protest against practitioners of medicine and dentistry of ascribing to it every trouble about the mouth and needlessly and unneces-

sarily disturbing the minds of their patients. It is true there is much pyorrhea which prompt local and systemic treatment will relieve. The various remedies advertised as sure cures should be left severely alone. While there are medicines which are of much benefit in the treatment of pyorrhea, no specific has yet been discovered.

It is a well recognized fact that the mouth is a great breeding place for the various germs of disease, and that the filling of various cavities in the teeth, the treatment and filling of roots, and curing of abscesses about the teeth and gums removes very prolific sources of infection. The constant absorption of poisons from abscessed or ulcerated teeth affects the general health of the individual, and many ailments such as rheumatism may be directly traced to this trouble, but do not understand me to say that all rheumatism comes from bad teeth, and do not be persuaded to have all your teeth extracted, for that reason.

This institution will have done much to justify the wisdom of its founder, if, through the educational propaganda which it will conduct, the children and public will be taught plain, simple rules of health so that they may be able to avoid by preventive measures some of the ills of life, and by increased education discriminate be-

tween the good and bad in medicines and dentistry.

The desire to do his utmost for the alleviation of suffering, to make childhood more happy and pleasant; to more properly fit the child for life's battles, and, above all, his intensely human feeling and wish to do good, have been the controlling reasons which animated the modest and unassuming gentleman who is the founder of this beautiful and splendid charity. All who have experienced the misery and pain from toothache and earache in early childhood and those who have been awakened by their children in the small hours of the night with sobbing and crying from pains more intense and excruciating than any others, will bless the day when preventive dentistry removes from innocent childhood the sufferings which have come down through all the ages.

Rochester has much in a material way to be proud of, and for which it is justly famed, but far and beyond all these is that splendid community spirit so noticeable here, and that intensely human desire, especially among your men of wealth and influence, to do something to relieve the less fortunate. That spirit and such men amply justify the words at the gateways to this city, "Here Quality Dominates."

## Contributors to the Forsyth Loving Cup

Things have happened since our last issue and the fund is near the \$150 mark. Hartford, Conn., is very much in the spot light and deservedly so. Perhaps you will not look at this in the same light as the editor, but it seems a wonderful thing that the dentists of Hartford showed themselves broad enough to go out and get a list of every practicing dentist in the city, ethical and unethical. *Oral Hygiene* represents every man in the dental profession; we solicit your contribution on this basis. Dr. H. B. Butler, Ogdensburg, N. Y., sends a complete list of all the practicing dentists, with a check for \$2.25. The Auburn Dental Society, Auburn, N. Y., a check for \$4, the contribution of 25 cents each for every member. The Haverhill, Mass., Dental Society sends a check for \$6.50 for each member and two guests. The Eastern Dental Society, New York City, sends a check for \$10. Louis P. Dotterer, Charleston, S. C., sends a list of thirteen names and a check for \$3.25. Half a dozen cities are busy securing a list and expect to equal the work of Hartford, Conn. It is expected to publish the result of their efforts in an early number. With this issue we inclose a coin card and addressed envelope. Send any amount you please, we don't care how small, and see the editor smile.

Previously acknowledged .....	\$ 63.14
L. P. Abbe, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
E. B. Abbey, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
W. F. Abbey, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
H. R. Allen, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
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F. A. Hinson, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
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P. J. Jones, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
Bert Johnson, Rochester, N. Y.....	.25
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10.00	S. A. Little, Hartford, Conn.....	.25
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\$139.24



## -:- EDITORIAL -:-

WM. W. BELCHER, D.D.S., EDITOR  
186 Alexander Street, Rochester, N.Y.

**ORAL HYGIENE** does not publish Society Announcements, Obituaries, Personals or Book Reviews. This policy is made necessary by the limited size and wide circulation of the magazine. -:- -:-

### CENTRALIZED OR LOCALIZED DENTAL CLINICS—WHICH?

**A**T a recent meeting of the Ontario Oral Hygiene Conference, held on the evening of Dec. 7, 1915, at Toronto, Canada, the subject for discussion was the advantages and disadvantages of dental dispensaries situated in school buildings or in separate institutions, as the Forsyth at Boston and the soon-to-be Rochester Dental Dispensary.

The essayists of the evening were Dr. Harold Dew, Cross, Director of the Forsyth, and Dr. Wallace Seccombe, Chief Dental Officer of the School Dental Clinics, City of Toronto.

The writer had the pleasure of looking over the work in Toronto with the members of the Oral Hygiene Conference, and was listed on the program to discuss the papers. Much to his regret this was impossible, as it was necessary to leave at an early hour in order to attend the unveiling of the Miller Memorial at Columbus, Ohio, the day following.

*Oral Health*, for December, contains both papers, and they are well worth reading. Dr. Seccombe summarized the advantages of the localized clinic as follows:

1. The plan is less costly.
2. School discipline gives control of child for treatment as well as follows up service.
3. Through the assistance of the school teacher, the daily cleansing of the mouth by the child may be checked up.
4. In the acquiring of good dental habits of mastication and oral cleanliness, the child is usually influenced more by the teacher than by the parent.
5. Complete dental statistics regarding oral conditions are only to be obtained through the systematic dental examinations of children in the school building.

6. Schools are becoming more and more educating centers for the community in which they are situated.

7. Dental operators are under the same regulations regarding hours and discipline as members of the teaching staff.

The disadvantages of a central clinic, as they appeared to the essayist, were as follows:

1. The necessity of children traveling long distances with the consequent expense of transportation. Ten cents car-fare each visit is a hardship to those who are too poor to pay for regular dental service.

2. In case of the younger children, the inconvenience and expense of an older person accompanying the child each sitting.

3. Lack of control of the child regarding subsequent sittings and the impossibility of the daily follow up.

4. Lack of co-operation between school, home and dental clinics.

This is a very fine presentation of the superiority of the localized dental clinic, and it is with no desire to belittle their advantages that I present the good points of a central clinic under one roof and one management, most of which were contained in Dr. Cross's able paper.

One great advantage of the clinic in a central building, and that building preferably not a school structure, is that it is non-sectarian. It is for the Jew and Gentile, the Catholic and Protestant, the public school and the parochial; it is without creed or color line. Now, you can argue as you will, that such things should not be, but the fact remains that parochial school children do not feel free to attend a school dental clinic when it is situated in a public school building. I am not raising any religious issue, it is here and you can't ignore it; I am only stating a fact in presenting it as an argument for the centralized clinic. Our Catholic Church people are mighty good citizens and pay their taxes cheerfully, they pay the general school tax and tax themselves again for their parochial schools. Any scheme that has for its object the reaching of every worthy child and the needs of all religious belief, of truly representing all the tax-payers, is incomplete so long as it is situated in a public school building.

Other advantages of a centralized clinic are the providing of suitable quarters for public lectures presented by the leading men of the profession to the general public and lectures to the school children on mouth hygiene by the aid of lantern slides and moving pictures. A research laboratory and the gathering of statistics, a centralization of investigation and book-keeping, loss of operator's time attending clerical duties, economies in the purchase and distribution of supplies, systematizing of operations, possibilities of giving anaesthetics of the latest and best forms by trained men, surgical treatment of adenoids, tonsils, nose and throat, with a trained nurse and recovery rooms, the possibilities of orthodontia and a full X-ray equipment. Unless constantly supervised, the general

run of operators, especially those on half-time, will cut corners and scheme to leave the clinic early that they may attend to some waiting patient in private practice. The attendance of the operator in the central clinic is prompt and full; it has to be. Recent graduates are not allowed to extract teeth until they have had proper training; they need a lot of watching and supervision for the first month, and this impossible in a clinic with widely separated units.

In the city of Toronto they pay \$800.00 for half-time operators, and this is increased \$100 each year until the salary is \$1,200 per annum for five half days per week. They have the advantage of being situated in a city with a large dental school, and of selecting men best fitted for the work. They pay large enough salaries to command the experienced operator. At the Forsyth Infirmary the whole-day operator receives \$1,000 and the half-day \$400. It is considered an honor to be connected with the clinic, and the training given to the recent graduate is an incentive to seeking an appointment. The recently graduated medical man seeks an internship of a year or more in a hospital and receives his board and lodging only; the centralized dental clinic fills this need to the recently graduated dental practitioner.

The educative factor of a centralized clinic as at the Forsyth, with its best in equipment and practice, is a vital thing; you have to come in contact with it to realize this. I think any dentist ever having visited this institution came away with a greater respect for his profession and a feeling that he was lacking in many of the essentials of a good dentist. It sets a standard for dentistry in the minds of the public, also it opens the eyes of the medical profession when they come in contact with the possibilities of modern dentistry. It provides hygienic and aseptic quarters; it breathes asepsis; it is a model for every man connected with it in any way, and habits once formed in an institution of this kind will cling to him through life.

The objection urged as to cost of car-fare and the time of a nurse attendant is true in a sense, but children of tender age ride at half-fare and the experience of the Forsythe is that the children come alone and gladly after the first visit. One of the evils of a school dispensary is the factor of losing track of a child who comes unattended from a neighboring school. The kids play "hookey" and report the dentist busy and unable to attend to him, and unless the teacher investigates matters, or a system of checking up has been installed, the dental clinic gets a black eye. With the nurse attendant and her flock of children an appointment is made for a dozen or more for the morning, and all are attended to in an hour and back to school with a minimum loss of time and effort.

In the new Rochester dental dispensary they are to have prophylactic treatment for all the school pupils in the first grades, examinations and tabulations of decay, tooth-brush drills and notification to the parents of teeth needing attention. If they are unable to send their children to a dentist in private practice, they will, if found worthy, be referred to the central clinic for service. The children will go to the big building erected for their care with a feeling of pride and as naturally as they now go from the kindergarten to the higher grades in school. With their experience in prophylaxis it will be an education, and with a conviction that the dentist and *their* dental clinic can only be a benefit.

With the clinic situated in a school building, the heat and light, as well as the janitor's service, is not charged up to the running expenses, but someone has to pay, and although it may not appear as such, it is none the less an expense that the tax-payers have to meet.

For the sake of argument, we will say it costs more, but with all its advantages isn't it worth it? No one factor is to give the profession the uplift as a centralized clinic, such as at Boston and Rochester. Each will do more than an equal number of dental schools with the latest and best in teaching and equipment. The work at Strassburg, Germany, is conducted in a central building, and until the inception of the newer and better buildings in America, this was the model for the world. Successful as they have been, I venture to say that the dental dispensary work in Toronto and Detroit would have accomplished more if they could have been located in a central building. But such housing and equipment is only possible in a few fortunate centers at present. The central clinic is endowed with much that is good; its possibilities for benefit to the children and an uplift to the profession are a great asset. The separate units in school buildings are for the present; the central clinic a possibility of the future. This is true not only in the populous centers, but wherever the public has become sufficiently educated to support such an institution.

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We regret to announce the death of Dr. Percy B. McCullough, which occurred at the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., December 30, 1915. Dr. McCullough was the directing head of the free dental dispensaries of Philadelphia, a part of the local Health Department, and under his administration much constructive work was inaugurated. It will be difficult to find a man so well fitted for the position and the Philadelphia clinic and the oral hygiene movement as a whole is suffering a distinct loss by his death. The writer had a very pleasant visit with him while attending the Darby-Guilford dinner and the announcement of his death comes most unexpectedly. He had just moved into a newly-furnished suite of offices, with every indication of health and prosperity. His loss will be keenly felt by all his associates.

## NOTE AND COMMENT

The saddest spot in the oral hygiene field has been the condition of the Cleveland dental clinics, where with equipment donated and money spent lavishly, they were abandoned almost as soon as started. Neither the city fathers nor the educational authorities would give them financial support and after the conclusion of the experimental tests conducted by Dr. W. G. Ebersole and private support withdrawn, they were closed and have so remained. But every other center of importance has recognized the value of free dental dispensary work in the schools and commencing January 3d of the present year, the board of education of the city assumed the financial responsibility of maintaining these five abandoned clinics, with E. A. Peterson, M.D., in charge. This action is most pleasing to the Cleveland dentists and to Dr. Ebersole, who labored so diligently to this end.

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March 4th to 11th is announced as the dates of a nation-wide "Baby Week." A slogan has been adopted of:

"Save the Kiddies."

"Better Babies, Better Homes, Better Cities."

"Good Fare, Good Care and Good Air for Babies."

The way to save the babies is to give the head of the family a living wage. Most parents are willing enough to save their babies, but income and the death rate of infants are closely co-related.

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The following from the *Nebraska Dental Journal* is too good for local circulation:

I am practicing in the country and I formerly "charged them at the gate." I did a big business; the rough-necks and K. M.'s were all for me and they loudly sang my praises. At the end of each year of this kind of practicing I found that there was very little left for "doc" after the bills had been paid.

Little "Doc Fist" across the street still puts on his bridge work at four dollars per, but I have changed my plan of doing business entirely and I do not have time to worry about the fellow practitioner. There is not a set fee in this office and all work is priced from the minimum up, with the accent very decidedly on the up. The first thing that is discussed when the patient enters the office is the fee, and of course the service is rendered according to the fee. There are plenty of people in a country town who will pay a fee that will entitle them to receive real dental work, but it is a question of salesmanship and enlightening them along the line of the different methods of doing this work. Use sample work and with this work use some salesmanship. No sane person would expect you to place a cast crown for the same price of a plier crown made in twenty minutes. This holds true of your operative work. Of course you can "put in a silver filling" and let them slip you a dollar, or you can discuss this matter with the patient before the operation, and quite likely you make an amalgam restoration for three dollars. Ignorance of the laity causes the trouble with the fee question and it is not so much the fault of the "fellow across the street." Try it, doctor, it won't do any harm to tell them that you can give them something better for more money. Amalgam properly placed and polished is worth more than a dollar and, honestly, that is about the only reason so much of the amalgam is not polished and properly finished. Get the flat fee out of your head. I do not wish to pose as a braggard and do not wish to do any vain-glorious boasting, so the editor will allow me to sign "JOHN."

Another evidence that we are rapidly becoming a learned profession is the coining of new words. Most of this, up to the present moment, has come from New York City and in some select circles you are not supposed to be a member of the advance guard unless you can pronounce them all with correctness and dispatch. Just to show that this inventive genius is not confined to the Atlantic seaboard, a dentist located at Minneapolis, Minnie, has dared to stand sponsor for "Streptococciosis Dentalis." The only way you can be sure you have spelled it correct is to count the number of letters; if it contains seventeen you are in right, otherwise you take your place at the foot of the class. It sounds like a disease, and it's papa says it is, and a bad one, too. No doubt it will be immediately added to the course in dental salesmanship. After a dentist wearing a white coat with short sleeves has wished this disease on a patient, the collecting of five extra iron men will be absolutely painless. With "everybody doin' it," a few of us have to remain sane and sensible, also sorry.

The original research work conducted by the committee of the National Dental Association has shown evidence of progress and is entitled to the support and respect of the dental profession as a whole. Such conditions are not the result of accident and the confidence of the ones to receive the ultimate benefits, is no small thing and to be guarded with jealous care. Just why it should be thought necessary to purchase a \$50,000 building on tick to house it's activities, even if they don't have to pay taxes, is a mystery. The interest on this amount at 5 per cent. is \$2,500 per annum and it costs money to buy coal and pay the janitor. Of course, the building may increase in value and again it may not. Let us hope it will, but all this belongs to the realm of speculation and not investigation. Why all this magnificence when a few rented rooms in the third story rear would research as well? Why doll the thing up in a full dress suit when it is still damp behind the ears and only entitled to a square of birdseye linen and a safety pin?

"Wash your hands and keep your fingers out of your mouth. That is the cardinal rule of life, the secret of which, if you could sell it for money, would make you richer than an Eastman, an Edison or a Ford. It's so simple and yet so few people seem to know it." This sage bit of advice was given in a lecture before the Labor Lyceum, before several hundred people on "The Prevention of Disease," by Dr. Geo. Goler, health officer of the city of Rochester, N. Y.

The total receipts of the income tax for 1914 was \$16,559,000. Only one and a half per cent. of our total population have incomes of \$4,000 or more. Probably the most of these think themselves poor but compared to the average they are indeed fortunate.

The Dental Manufacturer's Club of the United States will hold an exhibit at the Hotel Auditorium, Chicago, Ill., April 4 to 7, and it is expected to be most complete in equipment, furniture, materials and instruments. Expert demonstrators and lecturers will make this highly interesting and educational.

Emetine! Oh you Emetine! Come back heah; what for you 'sociates wid dat wo'thless white trash; dat no account Miss Vaxine and dat Nitrous Oxide Painless boy? Fokes'll t'ink you no better'n dey is. You come er runnin' er I'll tells yo' pah-pah.

*With apologies to N. D. J.*

# HERE'S A NEW ONE



We want good clean humor for this page and are willing to pay for it. Send me the story that appeals to you as "funny" and if I can use it, you will receive a check on publication—Address EDITOR, 186 Alexander St., Rochester, N. Y.



A big, overgrown boy, who said his name was "Missouri," applied for a job as messenger and the manager hired him on suspicion.

"Here's your chance, my boy," he said, "these people have been kicking about undelivered messages. This is your first assignment. Don't come back until you have delivered it."

A short time afterward the telephone rang: "Have you got a boy they call Missouri?" was the inquiry. "We did have, ten minutes ago," replied the manager.

"That Missouri feller came over here and said he had to go up to one of the offices. I'm the watchman and I told him we don't allow no one up in that office at this hour."

"Yes, yes," said the manager. "Well," said the watchman, "he said he would go up and I had to pull my gun on him"

"But you didn't shoot him!" exclaimed the manager.

"No," meekly came back the response, "but I want my gun back."—D. R., Cleveland, O.

An old organ grinder and his monkey had just passed the door and little Margaret ran to her mother exclaiming: "Oh, mamma, come here, quick! A mean looking man has got Charlie Chaplin tied and he's making him dance on the sidewalk."—M. J. E., Jordan, N. Y.

August Schmidt, engaged in the saloon business in a town that had voted "dry" and all saloons ordered closed May 1st, placed a sign in front of his place reading, "The first of May will be the last of August."—J. R. W., Peoria, Ill.

A small Norwegian lad presented himself before a Minnesota school teacher, who asked him his name.

"Peter Peterson," he replied.

"How old are you, Peter?" she asked.

"I not know how old I bane," said the lad.

"Well, where were you born?" asked she.

"I not born at all; I got step-mother," said Peter.—V. W., Red Oak, Iowa.

As a penalty for swearing, the teacher drew a ring of chalk on the blackboard and ordered a little ragmuffin to place his nose in the chalk ring, which necessitated him standing on his toes, and thus remain for ten minutes, as a punishment.

Returning in a few minutes, the boy was standing flat on his feet, with his nose still in the ring.

"How does this come, Willie, wasn't that ring about four inches higher a few minutes ago?" she asked.

"Yes," replied Willie, "but the damn thing slipped."—W. C. B., Princeton, Ind.

Willie's father had reproved him for bad language and told him to stick to what he heard at home and not on the street, and he would keep out of trouble. On his return from school the next day, he announced that he had been punished for using one of his father's expressions. "How is that?" asked his father.

"Well," said Willie, "the teacher asked me how much a million dollars was and I said, please, teacher, it's a h— of a lot of money; then she licked me."—P. J., Toronto, Canada.